



# Crater Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2013 • Issue No. 54

## ALUMNI FEATURE



**Jennifer Burke**

As we have done since our inception, the Crater Foundation **Alumni Newsletter** proudly features a Crater graduate each issue. In the Fall 2013 issue we bring you Jennifer Burke, a 1993 Crater High School graduate who was the recipient of the very first Crater Foundation scholarship. This spring the 3034th scholarship was awarded, so Jennifer set a trend that has experienced tremendous growth.

Upon graduating from Crater, Jennifer applied her scholarship at Southern Oregon University. She remembers with great gratitude the financial help the scholarship gave her in her first year of college and especially how it eased her anxiety when she got sticker shock after seeing her textbook prices.

After taking a nine-month hiatus she returned to SOU and graduated in 1998 with a Bachelors of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in psychology and Spanish. She is very proud that she graduated from college without any student loan debt. While at Southern she participated in a college foreign exchange program and spent seven months in Quito, Ecuador, learning Spanish, attending the university there and traveling the whole country with a backpack and a Lonely Planet book. She even was able to take a Galapagos Islands cruise.

Remembering her Crater years, she relates how the Advanced Placement Art History class with Bill Lepore was a highlight. Included in the class was an opportunity for a spring break educational tour to Italy in 1992 and to Greece in 1993. She writes, "I saw so many beautiful places and had such a fun time with my Crater friends those two years. I've always thought my public school experience in District 6 gave me a GREAT education." Not surprisingly, Jennifer was an honor student and graduated in the top 5% of her class.

Today, Jennifer lives in San Diego, CA and works as an Energy Services Specialist for San Diego Gas and Electric. Prior to that she worked eleven years for AT & T as a business representative. In her spare time she loves kayaking on Mission Bay and the La Jolla shores and hiking, traveling, gardening, reading and spending time with family, and friends. She purchased a condo in San Diego in 2001 and has since become quite a handy fixer, painter, and remodeler for her home improvement projects.

Ms. Burke remains close to her family and points with pride to her brother, Don, a 1986 Crater graduate and her sister, Theresa, who graduated in 1987. The Crater Foundation takes great pride in honoring our very first scholarship recipient, Jennifer Burke.

### Reminder: Alumni Dues

Yes it's the time of year that we annually remind everyone to send in their Crater Alumni dues of \$10. Remember, the revenue raised from these dues is used to help defray the costs of the Alumni Newsletter. We now are mailing this Newsletter to nearly 9,000 alumni. The cost for three publications each year is approximately \$5,500 and the dues received usually amounts to about \$3,000. At this time the Crater Foundation picks up the remainder of the expense; however, we're not sure how long we can continue to do so. Our goal is for the dues to pay 100% of the publication and mailing costs. As the mailing list increases so does the expense. Your continued help in meeting these publication and distribution costs is needed. Any additional amount over the \$10 annual dues will be greatly appreciated. When paying dues, simply fill out the form on the back page of the newsletter, include your e-mail address, and send it in with a check for your dues.

**Also, please send information about yourself (if you haven't already done so); where you live, what work you do and something about your spouse and children. We like to share this information with all Crater alums.**

### Inside Features

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# WHERE *are they* NOW?

## 1952 - 1959

**PAT PERRY SCHAEFFER (54)** – lives in Austin, Texas with her husband, Skip. They have five grown children and eleven grandchildren. In 1995 they moved from Sunnyvale, California to Austin as she retired from the American Red Cross. They have traveled to Italy, Malta, U.K., Ireland, Israel, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and numerous places in the United States. Their hobbies include Bible study, traveling, reading, gardening and sewing.

**GLORIA WALKER HINDERER (54)** – lives in Jacksonville, Oregon where she is retired. She has three children, eighteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Gloria has enjoyed traveling to Hawaii and includes her hobbies and interests in antiques, bowling, reading and collecting.

## 1960 – 1969

**DENNIS FISHER (61)** – lives in Glide, Oregon with his wife, Kimberly. He attended University of Oregon for one year and Southern Oregon College where he received his degree in education. He has 3 grown children, 2 daughters and 1 son, and eleven grand children. He retired from teaching language arts at Sutherlin High School after 23 years and then taught writing classes at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg for two more years.

He has volunteered at Project Literacy as a Tutor and as a Reader for SMART at Glide Elementary School. Kimberly recently retired as a counselor and they enjoy their home built on the north Umpqua River with their two dogs and four cats. They have traveled to Great Britain, Costa Rica, Australia, Canada, and Mexico over the last decade. Dennis tells us it has been enjoyable and educational to travel and learn about other cultures and people.

Dennis states, "One of my inspirational teachers from Crater was Mr. Knapp, the P.E. teacher and Track coach who helped me to develop confidence in my abilities and to believe that hard work would pay off. I also met Harvey Tonn, who has provided leadership and a lasting legacy to education in general and Crater High students in particular."

**JUDY CHILDRESS BAMFORTH (63)** – lives in Central Point and works for the CPA firm of Kosmatka, Donnelly & Company. Judy worked for many years at Medford Corporation and at Newberry's. She has two grown children, Piper, Crater class of '85, and Michael, Crater class of '87. Judy says she spends what free time she has driving up and down I-5 to Portland to see her son and to Morgan Hill, California to see her daughter and five grandsons.

**GARY JACKEL (63)** – lives in Aloha, Oregon with his wife, Liz. He has two grown children and two grown step-children. After four years in the Navy, Gary returned to Medford and worked in law enforcement for ten years. He relocated to Aloha, Oregon, worked for Tektronix for seventeen years, then for Intel for five years. Now retired, they live in Aloha one or two days a week and spend the remainder of their time at their cabin in the Coast Range. He is an avid hunter and loves going on walks, taking quad rides, cutting firewood and shooting trap.

**JIM RICKS (64)** – lives in Klamath Falls with his wife, Sonja. After 22 years serving in the Air Force and another 21 years working, seeing their son and daughter leave home for successful lives of their own, and playing with their grandsons in Alaska, they have returned to Southern Oregon to enjoy retirement. They are enjoying the small city atmosphere of Klamath Falls and are amazed at the truth of the stories about how busy one can be when retired.

## 1970 – 1979

**JEFF MCMAHAN (75)** – lives in Central Point with his wife, Sheila. They have two grown children, Matthew and Joseph. Jeff has worked for Darigold as a Plant Supervisor for many years and enjoyed little league coaching, Jr. Comet sports, riding dirt bikes, hunting and fishing. He and Sheila spend time with Search and Rescue, scuba diving and traveling. Jeff is a Team Leader for Search & Rescue and is also a recovery diver.

**LYN KIMPTON (75)** – lives in Lynnwood, Washington and works as a

Data Control Tech lead at University of Washington. Lyn has been to Europe (England, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, and Switzerland) several times. He enjoys camping, hiking and kayaking and is learning how to quilt. He has two grown children, Jackie and David.

**ANNETTE WOLF SHINKLE (76)** – lives in Columbia City, Oregon with her husband, Jim (76). They have two grown sons, Lucas and Austin. In their free time they love to spend time with their family, love to spend time at the beach, and attending sporting events.

**TAMMIE JOHNSON BANKHEAD (77)** – lives in Meridian, Idaho with her husband, Dennis Bankhead (74). Married in 2011 in Stanley, Idaho, they love to snowmobile and ATV in the Sawtooth Mountains and near Anthony Lakes in Oregon. They also are raising steers as a new hobby. Dennis has retired from Roadway Express and Tammie is working as a Business Office Manager for Good Samaritan Society.

## 1980 – 1989

**TOMMY MALOT (83)** – lives in Central Point with his wife, Tiffany. They have twin daughters that are sophomores in college and a son that is a junior at Crater High. Tom runs the family business "MALOT CONSTRUCTION" and Tiffany works at Scenic Middle School as well as working as a realtor for Remax. In their free time they follow their children's activities and they love to travel. Tommy still loves to hunt when he has time.

**MIKE RYERSON (83)** – lives in Central Point with his wife, Leslee. They have two children, a daughter who is a sophomore at Crater, and a son, a seventh grader at Scenic. Mike and his brother Scott own "Ryerson & Company" a construction company focusing on concrete and sealants. Leslee writes for Southern Oregon Magazine.

## 1990 – 1999

**MICHELLE BERRYHILL ORTEZ (93)** – lives in Central Point with her husband, Chris. Michelle has two children, Nate 14, who attends Crater, and Breanna, who is 12 and attends Scenic. She also has a step-daughter Shelbi, who is 16 and attends North Medford. Michelle is a secretary at the school district administrative office and Chris is an electrician tech with the Veterans Administration Domiciliary.

**JUSTIN RICHARDSON (93)** – lives in Eagle Point with his wife, the former Leslie Brock '94. They have four children, Zach 18, Ila 6, and Eva and Emma 3. Justin works for Knife River and Leslie, a veterinarian, owns her own business, Richardson Veterinary Service.

## Fall Athletic Results



The **football team** competes in the Southwest Conference, which is made up of North Medford, Crater, Grants Pass, Roseburg, South Eugene, Sheldon, and Thurston. As the regular season came to an end, Crater had a 2-7 record and qualified for a state play-in game against Forest Grove. They defeated Forest Grove 41-39 to advance in the state playoffs. As we go to press Crater is scheduled to play Jesuit of Portland, the number one ranked team in Oregon.

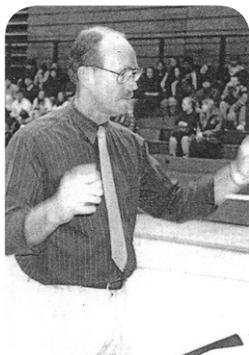
The **Crater volleyball team** is in the Southern Oregon Hybrid Conference that is comprised of Crater, Grants Pass, North Medford, Roseburg and South Medford. At the conclusion of the season the volleyball team finished with a 5-11 record. They were defeated by Forest Grove in a state play-in game.

The **Crater boys and girls soccer teams** are also in the Southern Oregon Hybrid Conference. The boys finished the season with a 0-12 record and were defeated by Sheldon in a state play-in game. The girls soccer team finished the season with a 2-10 record. They then played a state play-in game and lost to Sheldon.

The **Crater boys and girls cross country teams** are in the Southwest Conference, the same as football. The boys finished the season placing 4th in the conference and qualified one runner for the state meet while the Comet girls finished 3rd in the conference and qualified two runners for the state meet. Crater senior, Gracie Tostenson finished 3rd in the 6A division.

Ever since the beginning of the Crater Foundation some 20 years ago, Crater graduates have been featured in the Alumni Newsletter that publishes three times a year. As this tradition continues, after numerous requests, we begin a new feature recognizing teachers who have retired from School District #6.

## Retired Teacher Feature



**Don Bieghler**

**Don Bieghler** is another outstanding retired educator who has made a difference in many young people's lives. Don graduated from Medford Senior High School and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern Oregon State College with an emphasis in music. He played in the band during his high school years as well as his years in college.

Don began his professional career in 1967 when he accepted a job teaching band at Central Point Junior High, later Scenic Junior High School. Don taught band at Scenic for 13 years and during that time his bands marched in numerous parades throughout Oregon. His bands were regular participants in the annual Albany Veterans Day parade and in 1976 his band was invited to march in the Junior Rose Parade in Portland.

Don states that one of his many highlights while working in the District was "developing a junior high band program that was highly successful in regional and state competitive events." While at Scenic he was also the student store-co-advisor and served on the building scheduling committee which created the master schedule for all classes.

In 1980 Don became the band instructor at Crater High School. In addition to his Junior High and High School assignments, Don was an itinerant music teacher at Richardson, Jewett, and Sams Valley elementary schools. You could expect his bands to put on performances at half time of all home football games and most home basketball games. The concerts that Don's bands performed were outstanding and for many years he was instrumental in organizing the District Band and Vocal Festival. During his years in the District he was instrumental in developing a program of used band instruments that were made available for students who could not afford their own instrument.

Don retired in 1997 after 30 years in School District #6. He lives in Medford during the summer months and in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico during the winter months. He serves as a Council member and the Treasurer of a condo association in Mexico. Don has traveled in several regions of central and western Mexico. While at home in Medford he works around his house maintaining the gardens. He also directs the Ashland City Band, which he has done for the past 14 years.

Don was a valued professional and the District is very proud to have had Don as a teacher in School District #6.

# FOUNDATION *A Message From* **PRESIDENT** *Harvey Tonn*

As President of the Crater Foundation, I offer you greetings this beautiful Southern Oregon fall. Hopefully, you will find the 54th issue of the **Crater Alumni Newsletter** of some interest and it will bring back fond memories of your days in District #6 and, in particular, at Crater High School.

I would like to take this "Message" opportunity to invite all Crater Alumni to join me in what I'm calling the "**Fifteen Dollar Club**". Here is how it will work and the rationale behind it. We now mail the **Crater Alumni Newsletter** to nearly 9,000 Crater graduates. If one-third of you receiving donate \$15 or more to the Foundation, we would almost match a Foundation goal of raising an additional \$50,000 this year!

Why is this money needed? You are probably aware of the tremendous increase of tuition costs at our Oregon colleges, now often exceeding \$500 per credit hour. The result is that some our best Crater graduates are finding it more and more difficult to complete college, and, many who do, graduate with a tremendous college loan debt, some taking 20 or more years to pay it off. Currently, all Crater seniors who apply for a scholarship receive one, something the Foundation is very proud of. However, we are increasingly aware that, after that first year of college, for too many of our graduates, there is little, if any, financial assistance. This \$50,000 then would be earmarked for those Crater graduates who have successfully completed one or more years of college. If a minimal scholarship of \$500 was given, that would assist 100 students.

In an attempt to better put a \$15 contribution into perspective, consider this: If you are willing to give up one medium sized pizza, or, say, three coffee drinks, you could help make a difference in a young person's life.



The easiest way to make your donation is to go to the Crater Foundation website at [www.craterfoundation.district6.org](http://www.craterfoundation.district6.org). On the home page click on "**donate**". You will be given a choice of the amount you wish to donate, using your VISA card in the standard way. Please donate an amount that you are comfortable with — but we are not averse to donations over \$15!

If you would like to donate on a monthly basis, as a growing number of graduates and District #6 current and retired staff do, click on "**Find Out More Ways You Can Help**", download the form, fill it out and mail it in to:

Crater Foundation  
P.O. Box 5172  
Central Point, OR 97502

Of course there is always the tried-and-true method of simply mailing a check to the above address. Please remember that all the donations are secure and 100% tax deductible.

Just imagine: **YOU**, a Crater High School graduate, can make a difference in the life of another Crater graduate. A few years ago I was reminded by a very successful businessman and generous giver to many community programs throughout Oregon of this: "By helping others, whether it be financial, time, support, knowledge, or love, you will always be rewarded greater than the help you've given".

Please join our club.

